

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Alabama

1 Women's Business Assistance Center, Inc.

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See Women's Business Assistance Center, Inc., Mobile, AL.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2005

SBA Region: 4

2 Central Alabama Women's Business Center

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Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 4

They provide entrepreneurial counseling and training to women at any stage of small business ownership. They will use the FastTrac curriculum for training. Monthly and quarterly mentoring groups are in the formative stage in two of the counties and there are plans for semi-annual networking programs. A circuit-rider concept will be developed for the rural counties. They will be using distance learning through a website conference room at their location in Birmingham. Specific workshops will include a four-hour course on Developing Your Selling Skills and a module for home-based businesses including: "Organizing the Home-Based Business," "Accounting for the Home-Based Business," "Marketing Your Home-Based Business," and "When is it Time to Move the Business out of the House?"

Alaska

3 WOMEN\$Finance

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Web site: [www.alaskabizbuilders.org/women\\$fund/](http://www.alaskabizbuilders.org/women$fund/)

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1997

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 10

WOMEN\$ Fund was established in 1995 as a program of the YWCA and fully implemented in Spring 1996. WOMEN\$ Fund is a microenterprise training and microlending program for women entrepreneurs in Anchorage, Alaska. Consistent with the National YWCA's mission to empower women and girls and to eliminate racism, the programs of the YWCA of Anchorage promote independence, knowledge and self-esteem, especially for low-income and minority women. WOMEN\$ Fund's mission is to secure financial independence for women through the provision of capital and technical assistance. By providing training classes in entrepreneurship, technical assistance, individual mentoring and seed money for women-owned small businesses, WOMEN\$ Fund seeks to empower low- and moderate-income single-parent and minority women in Anchorage and surrounding Alaska communities for economic self-sufficiency.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

American Samoa

4 American Samoa Women's Business Center

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Web site:

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 9

Arizona

5 Self-Employment Loan Fund, Inc. (SELF)

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Web site:

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2002

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2007

SBA Region: 9

6 Arizona Council for Economic Conversion

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Web site: www.acec-az.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 9

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Arkansas

7 Arkansas Women's Business Development Center (ARWBDC)

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ARWBDC@ehbt.com

Web site: www.arenterprise.org

The ARWBDC is located in Pine Bluff, "the Gateway to the Delta." The program was funded in September 1999 to provide education, training, technical assistance to women-owned businesses, focusing mainly on those owned by minorities. From 1988 to 1998, over 30 percent of the participants in the Good Faith Fund's entrepreneurship programs were on some form of public assistance. Arkansas has the lowest per capita income in the U.S., and the poverty rate in the Delta is 118 percent above the national average.

Business training programs include FastTrac entrepreneurial training, a women's business mentoring program that provides advanced business training for women who have been in business for at least 1 year and helps in developing relationships with mentors, a specialized business training module for childcare providers due to the high demand for childcare in the Delta. Other services include technical assistance, help with business plan writing, business counseling, and special workshops, which include Internet training and money-management seminars. The Center currently serves two cities; Forrest City and Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 6

California

8 Women's Initiative for Self Employment (WI)

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Web site: www.womensinitiative.org

The Women's Initiative provides business training and technical assistance in English and Spanish to low-income women in the San Francisco Bay Area. The English-language program consists of a two-week business assessment workshop, a 14-week business skills workshop and a four-week workshop on writing a business plan. The Spanish language program parallels the English but is in modular format. WI also offers business support services, including one-to-one consultations, peer networking, support groups and special seminars.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 9

9 West Company - Ukiah Center

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WEST Company serves micro-enterprise owners in rural Northern California, targeting low-income women and minorities through its centers in Ukiah and Fort Bragg. WEST Company provides business planning and management assistance at every stage of business ownership from feasibility through expansion. Services include business-plan training, individual consulting, access to capital through individual microloans, business- network formation, and assistance with business applications using technology.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 9

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

California

10 West Company - Fort Bragg Center

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Status: SUB

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 9

WEST Company serves micro-enterprise owners in rural Northern California, targeting low-income women and minorities through its centers in Fort Bragg and Ukiah. WEST Company provides business planning and management assistance at every stage of business ownership from feasibility through expansion. Services include business-plan training, individual consulting, access to capital through individual microloans, business-network formation, and assistance with business applications using technology.

11 Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center

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Web site: www.rencenter.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 9

Renaissance comprises a unique, multicultural marketplace of entrepreneurs. Diversity--ethnic, social and economic--is a critical factor of the center's success. This diversity generates energy that fosters networking and results in business income: 60 percent of Renaissance graduates report doing business with one another. A 10-year impact study by the Federal Reserve Board of San Francisco in 1997 revealed that 87 percent of businesses started through this program are still in operation (compared to the national average of 38 percent). Services include an incubator facility, loan packaging and links to credit resources, core business planning, introduction to business and advanced action-planning classes. Graduates of Renaissance programs receive a 1 year free membership to the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, as well as continuing peer support, mentoring, listings of events and access to a business expo.

Colorado

12 Mi Casa Resource Center for Women, Inc.

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Web site: www.micasadenver.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 8

Founded in 1976, Mi Casa Resource Center for Women provides quality employment and education services that promote economic independence for low-income, predominantly Latina women and youth. Services include educational counseling, job-readiness and job-search training, life-skills development, job placement, and nontraditional and computer-skills training. Entrepreneurial training is provided through either the "Evening Entrepreneurial Training Program" or "Project Success." Individuals learn how to start a business and develop a business plan, with microloans available to program graduates. Youth development, dropout prevention, leadership training and responsible decision-making are provided through three youth programs: Mi Carrera (My Career), Mi Camina (My Road) and Fenix (teen-pregnancy, AIDS and STD prevention program). Mi Casa received an additional grant in 1999 to expand their services to Pueblo, a predominantly Hispanic community. There are few employment opportunities in Pueblo, except for low-wage hourly service and retail positions; many residents have difficulty achieving and sustaining self-sufficiency. Mi Casa collaborates with the Women's Resource Agency to provide services and offers specialized training geared to women on public assistance.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Colorado

13 Mi Casa Resource Center for Women, Inc

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Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2000
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004
SBA Region: 8

14 Mi Casa Resource Center for Women, Inc.

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Status: **SUB**

First Year Funding:
Projected Final Funding Year: FY
SBA Region: 8

Connecticut

15 SBA and OWBO- CT at The Entrepreneurial Center of Hartford's College for Women

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Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 1999
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003
SBA Region: 1
SBA Region: 1

Web site: www.entrepreneurialctr.org

This project serves potential startup and established women business owners throughout Connecticut, with special emphasis on women who are socially and economically disadvantaged. The center works in collaboration with People's Bank and the Connecticut Development Authority. The University of Hartford provides the self-assessment workshops and conducts an intensive 16-week business-training program. People's Bank and the Connecticut Development Authority provide assistance in seeking access to capital. The center offers the "Trickle-Up Program," an international fund that provides seed capital of up to \$750 to qualified clients for startup, a grant that does not have to be paid back. By collaborating with state-wide economic development organizations, the center provides technical assistance for all graduates throughout the life cycles of their businesses. This program is the first of its kind in the nation, linking a state agency, a private corporation and a nonprofit in a formal partnership.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Connecticut

16 The Entrepreneurial Center of Hartford's College for Women

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Web site: www.entrepreneurialctr.org

Status: SUB

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 1

SBA Region: 1

17 Women's Business Development Center (WBDC)

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Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 1

SBA Region: 1

The Women's Business Development Center is a not-for-profit organization, established in 1998, that promotes economic development through entrepreneurship. The WBDC offers comprehensive business education and increased access to financial resources as essential business tools to economic independence. The WBDC offers myriad programs to meet the needs of aspiring, emerging and established entrepreneurs. One-to-one counseling, long-term training, workshops and symposiums are offered on virtually every aspect of establishing and growing a small business.

District of Columbia

18 Women's Business Center of the Capital Area

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Web site: www.womensbusinesscenter.org

See Women's Business Center, Washington, DC.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 3

Florida

19 Women's Business Center Santa Ana County

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Web site: www.wbac-inc.org

Status: SUB

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 4

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Florida

20 Women's Business Center of Northwest Florida

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Web site: www.ceebic.org/~wbac

The Women's Business Center of Northwest Florida was established in August 1999 as a project of the Women's Business Assistance Center, Inc., of Mobile, Alabama. It serves current and potential women business owners, with an emphasis on socially and economically disadvantaged women. Located in Pensacola, the WBC serves the most populous counties in the Panhandle, which include Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Okaloosa. Military bases, such as Eglin Air Force Base and Pensacola Naval Air Station, bring many military spouses and retirees to the area. As a result, the WBC targets these two demographic segments of the population, especially focusing on women retiring from the military who are considering business ownership as a second career. In addition to training, counseling, mentoring and video-conferencing, the WBC will expand its service in the third year to provide circuit-rider training in the Fort Walton Beach area.

(See also Alabama)

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 4

SBA Region: 4

Georgia

21 Greater Atlanta Women's Business Project

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Web site: www.graspnet.org/women.html

GRASP gives a hand up to women in the city of Atlanta and in Fulton County, about half of whom are African American. GRASP offers three program tracks, depending on the needs and preferences of each woman: "The New Horizon Track" is a hands-on business-development program for women transitioning from welfare to work. "The Education/Training/Information Track" offers Internet and other computer training and access, a small business resource center, access to training programs of numerous other small business service providers, and twice-monthly workshops on topics of most interest to women and not currently available from other local service providers. "The Advanced Business Performance Track" invests an intensive level of management and technical assistance in well-established women-owned businesses selected for their overall growth potential, and also includes startups with unusually strong management capacity and/or market niche. The team assigned to each client comprises an experienced, successful businessperson, an accountant and an attorney. GRASP partners with TEKknowledge, Inc., a minority-owned technology firm that responds to user questions and problems regarding technology or other issues as needed.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 4

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Hawaii

22 Hawaii Women's Business Center

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Web site: www.Hawaiiwbc.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 9

The Hawaii Women's Business Center supports women in starting and growing their businesses through individual counseling, networking, small group discussions, workshops, quarterly women business owner roundtable breakfasts and statewide conferences. The HWBC has a weekly, women-only Toastmasters Club designed to help women business owners enhance their presentation skills. In addition, the Hawaii Women's Business Center is taking the initiative statewide in developing health and wellness tourism. Because the majority of the people involved in health and wellness are women, and the largest industry in Hawaii is tourism, HWBC is bringing the two together to create a new industry for Hawaii. Holistic health and wellness offer huge potential for business growth for women-owned businesses as well as expansion of

Idaho

23 Entrepreneurial Resources, Inc.

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twilc2000@yahoo.com

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 10

SBA Region: 10

Web site: www.wemswbc.org

The WBC is the first program in Idaho to serve as a focal point for women's economic improvement opportunities through business ownership. Its services target women entrepreneurs wanting to launch a business; expand and improve an existing business; purchase an existing business; pursue or expand a home-based business. In addition to traditional business counseling, the WBC offers training seminars and workshops providing insightful information affecting business owners at every stage of business ownership. The WBC staff of professionals and volunteers serve women throughout the state, with special outreach to socially and economically disadvantaged clients, and the assistance of SBA resource partners: the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), statewide Small Business Development Centers, and the Business Information Center located in Boise. Our mission is to create women business leaders by providing ongoing business training, mentoring, coaching and support. The governing body of the WBC is the Women's Entrepreneurial Mentoring Systems, Inc.

Illinois

24 Women's Business Development Center

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Web site: www.wbdc.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 5

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Indiana

25 Women's Enterprise, A Program of the Fort Wayne's Women's Bureau

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lealford@womensenterprise.org;

Web site: www.womensenterprise.org

The Women's Enterprise is the first and only SBA-funded women's business center in the state of Indiana. The mission is to promote economic development through entrepreneurial assistance and advocacy for women. The vision is to provide women, including those who are economically and/or socially disadvantaged, with the knowledge and expertise to make informed decisions and actions to improve their financial positions in life. From "concept to completion to collaboration," Women's Enterprise provides technical facilitation and assistance, business counseling, mentoring, networking, peer support, workshops and seminars, and sponsorship opportunities. Support and services are provided at all stages of

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 5

SBA Region: 5

Iowa

26 The Iowa Women's Business Center

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The Iowa Women's Business Center is part of a consortium of all the major business-development organizations in Iowa and serves every level of woman business owner across the state in a unified and intensive way. The consortium, which has locations in six cities plus 15 SBDC sub-centers and a Web site, is led by the nonprofit ISED, which has a long history of providing self-employment training programs, especially to the socially and economically disadvantaged.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1998

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 7

Kansas

27 Kansas Women's Business Center

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Web site: www.kansaswbc.com

The Kansas Women's Business Center (KWBC) is located in the high business growth area of Johnson County, Kansas. However, the Center is designed to serve the State of Kansas, including socially and economically disadvantaged women, women veterans and women whose life circumstances make traditional employment difficult. The KWBC provides services to women entrepreneurs, at every stage of business development, through business counseling, seminars, classes, & workshops, networking and mentoring.

As a program of the Enterprise Center of Johnson County, which itself operates as a business incubator, the KWBC offers a host of services designed to enhance a client's entrepreneurial and general business knowledge. Training and assistance is available in areas such as business financing, marketing, business management, technology and government procurement.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 7

SBA Region: 7

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Kentucky

28 Women's Enterprise Institute

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Web site: www.weimidway.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 4

As the only SBA-funded women's business center in Kentucky, the Women's Enterprise Institute reaches beyond the Lexington area, with outreach through collaborative partners in western and eastern Kentucky. The college works in close coordination with local agencies to reach out to underserved populations with a special minority businesswomen's program. WEI offers workshops and classes on Internet, management, marketing, and sources of capital. It plans to become an SBA Loan Prequalification intermediary by the end of the first grant year. With special emphasis on support and networking for women, "Women's Enterprise Wednesday" roundtables are regularly scheduled, with successful businesswomen offering lunchtime training. Online projects include development of extensive businesswomen's resources, both national and statewide, and a businesswomen's library. WEI coordinates with other women's colleges that have SBA-funded women's business centers—Columbia College in South Carolina and the University of the Sacred Heart in Puerto Rico—to employ innovative, coordinated approaches to serving the diverse population of women in Kentucky.

Louisiana

29 Urban League of Greater New Orleans (ULGNO) Women's Business Resource Center

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Web site:

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 6

The New Orleans metropolitan area, the target area of the WBC, is home to 24% single-female headed households, 62% African American and 53% of households are described as low income. Among the services they will provide are: the organization of at least one trade association of home-based women entrepreneurs, i.e., childcare providers, to maximize their profitability and management capabilities; development of a micro-business loan fund with the participation of at least one bank; seminars with such topics as "So You Think You Can Cook---Try Catering," "e-commerce From Your Home," and "Getting Government Contracts." Long-term training will use the NxLevel curriculum. Basic etiquette, dining out, gift giving, accepting invitations, saying thank you will also be a part of their training.

Maine

30 Coastal Enterprises Inc. (CEI) Women's Business Center

Ellen Golden, Senior Program Officer

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Fax: 207-882-7308

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Web site: www.ceimaine.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 1

Coastal Enterprises, Inc., is a private, nonprofit community-development corporation that provides financing and technical assistance to Maine businesses, which in turn provide income, ownership or employment opportunities to low-income people. The Women's Business Center emerged from CEI's experience in assessing the needs of women business owners and providing them with training, technical assistance, financing and advocacy. Statewide in scope, the center targets assistance to women who have started their businesses. Project participants benefit from CEI's capacity to provide access to capital through its SBA Microloan and Loan Prequalification programs, as well as other resources.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Maryland

31 Women's Business Institute, Inc. (WBI)

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The Women's Business Institute, a nonprofit organization, provides services to startup and established businesses, including socially and economically disadvantaged businesses in rural communities in Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Services include training programs on using computers and the Internet, contracting and entrepreneurship. The latter includes three nationally recognized FastTrac programs: "First Step FastTrac" for welfare-to-work clients; "Premier FastTrac I -- New Venture" for clients in the early stages of starting or running a business; and "Premier FastTrac II -- Business Growth" for clients in business needing help on expanding or improving operations. Additional technical assistance is provided through one-to-one business counseling, mentoring, networking roundtables and loan-packaging services. WBI partners with a variety of business service providers such as banks, community organizations, colleges, the SBA, small business development centers, and SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives). These partnerships enhance the services that WBI is able to provide to clients.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 3

32 Women's Business Institute, Inc. (WBI)

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See WBI

Status: SUB

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 3

SBA Region: 3

33 Women Entrepreneurs of Baltimore, Inc. (WEB)

Amanda Crook Zinn, Chief Executive Officer

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Email: aczinn@webinc.org

Web site: www.webinc.org

Women Entrepreneurs of Baltimore, a non-profit organization, is an entrepreneurial training program designed to help economically disadvantaged women become self-sufficient through business development. The main components of the WEB Program include: an intensive, three-month business-skills training course; mentoring; financing strategy development; community networking; resource sharing; professional business consultation; Internet training; and government certification and procurement.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1997

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 3

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Maryland

34 Women's Business Institute, Inc. (WBI)

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Email: cumberlandwbi@juno.com; checket@juno.com;
mis@accessa.net; crabbsie@aol.com
Web site: www.members.aol.com/bchecket

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Status: | SUB |
| First Year Funding: | 1999 |
| Projected Final Funding Year: | FY 2003 |
| SBA Region: | 3 |
| SBA Region: | 3 |

35 Women's Business Institute, Inc. (WBI)

Beatrice Checket,
College of Southern Maryland, 8730 Mitchell Rd.
La Plata, MD 20646
Telephone: 301-934-7581
Fax: 301-934-7681
Email: maryk@csmd.edu; checket@juno.com;
mis@accessa.net; crabbsie@aol.com
Web site: www.members.aol.com/bchecket

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Status: | SUB |
| First Year Funding: | 1999 |
| Projected Final Funding Year: | FY 2003 |
| SBA Region: | 3 |
| SBA Region: | 3 |

Massachusetts

36 Center for Women and Enterprise

Elizabeth Madera, Manager
255 Park Ave
Worcester, MA 01609
Telephone: 508-363-2300 x204
Fax: 508-363-2323
Email: emadera@cweworcester.org
Web site: www.cweboston.org

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Status: | Currently Funded Center |
| First Year Funding: | 2001 |
| Projected Final Funding Year: | FY 2005 |
| SBA Region: | 1 |

CWE offers assistance to women business owners in several formations:

- Turbo Day Seminars, which concentrate workshops into a day-long event, allowing business owners to choose three of nine offered specific workshops on relevant topics in a single day.
- Information sessions on subjects such as pros and cons of owning your business, e-commerce and internet marketing, finance Q&A, procurement and others as determined by client demand.
- Facilitated long-term groups that help women with start up (First Step Fast Trac, Community Entrepreneurs Program and Business Plan Workshop) or growth and stabilization (WNET) of their businesses.
- One-on-one counseling through CWE staff and resource partners that focuses on loan packaging, procurement, and finance issues as well as a range of marketing and management issues as needed.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Massachusetts

37 Center for Women & Enterprise Inc. (CWE)

Catherine Elder, Program Manager
Renaissance Park, 1135 Tremont Street, Suite 480
Boston, MA 02120
Telephone: 617-536-0700 x223
Fax: 617-536-7373
Email: celder@cweboston.org; info@cweboston.org;
asilbert@cweboston.org

Web site: www.cweboston.org

The Center for Women & Enterprise, is a nonprofit educational organization whose mission is to empower women to become economically self-sufficient and prosperous through entrepreneurship. The first center of its kind in Massachusetts, CWE provides courses, workshops, roundtables, one-to-one consulting, and loan-packaging assistance to women who seek to start and/or grow their own businesses. While services are open to everyone, scholarships target low-income

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| First Year Funding: | 2000 |
| Projected Final Funding Year: | FY 2004 |
| SBA Region: | 1 |
| SBA Region: | 1 |

Michigan

38 Center for Empowerment and Economic Development (CEED)

Michelle Richards, Executive Director
2002 Hogback Road, Suite 12
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Telephone: 734-677-1400
Fax: 734-677-1465
Email: mrichards@wwnet.net
Web site: www.miceed.org

The Women's Initiative for Self-Employment Program began in 1987 as a means to provide low-income women with the tools and resources they need to begin and expand businesses. The WISE Program provides a comprehensive package of business training, personal-development workshops, credit counseling, startup and expansion financing, business counseling, peer-group support, and mentoring. The creation and expansion of businesses is only one goal of this program, which was also designed to fight poverty, increase incomes, raise self-esteem, stabilize families, develop skills and

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| First Year Funding: | 2000 |
| Projected Final Funding Year: | FY 2004 |
| SBA Region: | 5 |

39 Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women

Rita VanderVen, Executive Director
25 Sheldon Street, SE Suite 210
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Telephone: 616-458-3404
Fax: 616-458-6557
Email: rvandervan@growbusiness.org
Web site: www.growbusiness.org

GROW offers long-term training and counseling and also provides training in economic self-sufficiency and asset building through its Individual Development Account program. GROW is also actively involved in providing training for home-based day-care providers in business management and setting up financial management systems. They are exploring a "collaborative fair" to market rural business women's products and the products of women in agri-businesses to consumers in urban areas. Established businesses participate in the Upclose seminars on topics such as certification, procurement and networking, and participation in Business Circles.

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| First Year Funding: | 2001 |
| Projected Final Funding Year: | FY 2006 |
| SBA Region: | 5 |

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Michigan

40 Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute, Inc. (WBDC)

Jean Jackson, Director
455 W. Fort Street, 4th Floor
Detroit, MI 48226

Telephone: 313-961-8426

Fax: 313-961-8831

Email: deibus@aol.com; jjackson@deibus.org;

vrush@deibus.org; cmcclelland@deibus.org

Web site: www.deibus.org

Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute, Inc. serves businesses owned by individuals with low-to-moderate incomes and others who are seeking self-sufficiency through entrepreneurship. DEI offers two long-term (11-week) classes for current or potential business owners. The Self-Employment Initiative is open to individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families through the Michigan Family Independence Agency, and the Enterprise Development Initiative is open to low-to-moderate income individuals, dislocated workers, individuals with disabilities and others. DEI offers a business computer center, business reference library, graphics & print department, employment specialist and personal development consultant. Through the Women's Enterprise Center (WEC), DEI is able to further provide Internet training, economic-literacy classes, industry-specific consultants, mentorships and networking, and conference opportunities to women who are current or potential business owners and have successfully completed one of the DEI business-skills training programs. The WEC also offers Internet training and economic-literacy training to all women business owners in Southeastern Michigan.

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 5

SBA Region: 5

Minnesota

41 Minnesota Women's Business Center (The People Connection)

Michelle Landsverk, Project Director
226 East 1st Street

Fosston, MN 56542

Telephone: 218-435-2134

Fax: 218-435-1347

Email: michelle@mnwbc.org

Web site: www.mnwbc.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 5

42 WomenVenture

Jan Jordet, Executive Director
2324 University Avenue West, Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55114

Telephone: 651-646-3808

Fax: 651-641-7223

Email: jjjordet@womenventure.org;

Web site: www.womenventure.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 5

WomenVenture's mission is to assist women in securing their own economic success and prosperity. This empowerment occurs through consulting and training in a variety of areas: business development, career transitioning, training for women to enter non-traditional occupations (which provide better lifetime earnings) and education and mentoring of young women around economic issues. The WomenVenture Business Center provides technical assistance to women entrepreneurs through one-on-one consulting, business-planning seminars and workshops plus advanced business training through the College of St. Catherine distance learning modules. The Center is an intermediary for the SBA Loan Prequalification and Microloan programs, providing microloans from \$200 to \$25,000. Please visit the WomenVenture Web site.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Mississippi

43 MACE Women's Business Center Training and Technical Assistance Program

Sheila Middleton, Outreach Coordinator

119 South Theobald Street

Greenville, MS 38701

Telephone: 662-334-2937

Fax: 601-334-2939

Email: middleton7@hotmail.com

Web site: www.deltablues.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2002

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2007

SBA Region: 4

Mississippi Action for Community Education oversees the Mid-Delta Women's Entrepreneurial Training and Technical Assistance Program. Given the limited opportunities for traditional employment in this area, WE-TAP creates alternative and nontraditional means of economic support for low-income women. For more than 30 years, MACE has been in the forefront of economic-development initiatives in the Delta. WE-TAP will expand upon the New Enterprise for Women ("Project NEW," a business incubator project) and reinvigorate our support for small business development using our women's entrepreneurial program, "Project Jump Start." MACE has an extensive history working with the undereducated poor, most of whom are women who face the loss of public assistance under welfare reform. They have very poor prospects for gainful employment through traditional means in this area. The ultimate goal is to create self-sufficiency and build wealth, particularly for low-income women residing in the Mississippi Delta. This is consistent with MACE's historic mission, "to help people help themselves."

Missouri

44 Women's Business Center at Growth Opportunity Connection, Inc.

Linda Eakes, Executive Director

4747 Troost Avenue

Kansas City, MO 64110

Telephone: 816-235-6146

Fax: 816-235-6177

Email: acorbet@goconnection.org; leakes@goconnection.org

Web site: www.goconnection.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 7

The Western Missouri Women's Business Center is located in the heart of Kansas City, Missouri, and serves the Missouri side of the Kansas City Metro as well as western Missouri. The Center has as its goal to serve primarily low- to moderate-income women and women who are socially and economically disadvantaged. Long-term training, counseling and technical assistance is provided in all business areas. The "First Step FastTrac" training program is offered three times a year, in addition to numerous seminars on a variety of topics valuable to entrepreneurs. Computers are available for training sessions as well as e-commerce tips. The Center's staff is dedicated to providing the highest quality of service to its clients and the community in order to enhance economic growth and personal achievement.

45 Grace Hill Neighborhood Services

Lynette Watson, Director

2324 North Florissant Street; 2600 Hadley Street

St. Louis, MO 63106

Telephone: 314-539-9663

Fax: 314-539-9666

Email: LynneS@gracehill.org; carlab@gracehill.org;

lynettew@gracehill.org.

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 7

SBA Region: 7

Web site: www.gracehill.org/wbc

Grace Hill's service areas consist entirely of impoverished neighborhoods, with residents at or below poverty level, high crime and high school-dropout rates, evident drug and gang presence, and deteriorating properties. This project's comprehensive regional scope includes St. Louis and three counties. The center's first concern is outreach and marketing to make women aware of their services. Long-term training for startup and existing businesses is subcontracted through an SBDC. Grace Hill Neighborhood Services runs a business incubator and provides a listing of approved local suppliers who offer discounts to women business owners. The center is also compiling a listing of women's businesses, so they can patronize one another's companies (they hope to expand this into a nationwide database).

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Montana

46 Business Resource Center (BRC)

Travis Brazill, Director
347 North Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59601

Telephone: 406-443-0800

Fax: 406-442-2745

Email: tbrazill@ctibrc.org

Web site: www.ctibrc.org

See Career Training Institute, Helena, MT.

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 8

Nebraska

47 Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP)

Glennis McClure, WBC Director
P.O. Box 406 101 Tallman Street

Walthill, NE 68067-0406

Telephone: 402-645-3296

Fax: 402-645-3296

Email: reapwbc@diodecom.net

Web site: www.cfra.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 7

The Women's Business Center in Nebraska is a program of the Center for Rural Affairs' Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP). REAP's WBC is the first and only SBA funded Women's Business Center in the state of Nebraska. REAP is committed to strengthening rural communities through small, self-employed business development assistance. REAP's Women's Business Center project is a center without "walls", using REAP's infrastructure with business specialists located throughout the state to deliver the WBC services to rural small businesses.

REAP's Women's Business Center will serve existing and start-up self-employed women across rural Nebraska, improve the accessibility of REAP's basic business training across Nebraska for women, provide Internet training for women in business on a regional basis, participate in an on-line Women's Business Center (OWBC) co-sponsored by SBA, increase REAP's outreach to provide training, technical assistance, networking and lending, targeting socially and economically disadvantaged women through our existing infrastructure.

New Hampshire

48 Women's Business Center, Inc.

Janet Razzak, Director
83 Hanover Street, 2nd Floor

Manchester, NH 03101

Telephone: 603-623-7383

Fax:

Email:

Web site:

Status: **SUB**

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 1

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

New Hampshire

49 Women's Business Center, Inc.

Ellen Fineberg, Executive Director
150 Greenleaf Avenue, # 8

Portsmouth, NH 03801

Telephone: 603-430-2892

Fax: 603-430-3706

Email: ellen@womenbiz.org

Web site: www.womenbiz.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1997

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 1

The Women's Business Center, Inc. is a collaborative organization that encourages and supports women in all phases of enterprise development. The center provides access to educational programs, financing alternatives, technical assistance, advocacy and a network of mentors, peer advisors, and business and professional consultants. By encouraging women in their business ventures, WBC fosters economic development. WBC addresses the needs of women business owners through several targeted programs: seminars for women entrepreneurs, a WBC newsletter, monthly peer advisory meetings, "Internet for Small Business" workshops, and "The Entrepreneur's Network."

New Jersey

50 NJ Assoc. of Women Business Owners Women's Business Center

Penni Nafus, Director

White Horse Commercial Park, 127, Route 206, Suite 28

Hamilton, NJ 08610

Telephone: 732-560-9752

Fax: 732-560-9687

Email: pnafus@njawbo.org

Web site: www.njawbo.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 2

NJAWBO's Women's Business Center of New Jersey specializes in entrepreneurial training for women business owners. Classes include "SUCCESS," "Are You an Entrepreneur?," "Start Right!," "Grow Smart," "Profit Savvy," "Human Resource Seminar Series," "Internet Basics E-Commerce," and "Doing Business with the Government." Available throughout the state, WBC classes address the needs of neophytes, as well as seasoned business owners, helping them maximize business growth and profitability, learn management methods, improve business skills, and build support, referral and resource

New Mexico

51 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.

Roberta Ahlness, Regional Manager

200 West First Street, Suite 202

Roswell, NM 88203

Telephone: 505-624-9850

Fax: 505-624-9845

Email: wesstcorp@dfn.com

Web site: www.wesst.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 6

The Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team was incorporated in 1988 to assist low-income and minority women throughout New Mexico. WESST Corp. clients typically need long-term training and technical assistance. The centers serve both startup and expanding businesses, and provide training and counseling in both English and Spanish. Counseling and mentoring are offered through professional volunteers including attorneys, accountants, insurance agents and benefits counselors. Because of the rural nature of the areas it serves, WESST Corp. trainers often travel to clients' businesses. WESST Corp. has the only SBA Microloan Program in New Mexico and is an SBA Loan Prequalification Program intermediary.

Under its newest grant, WESST Corp. serves Roswell and the surrounding seven-county area. With the closing of the Levi Strauss plant in the fall of 1997, the area's unemployment rate jumped to one of the highest in southeast New Mexico -- more than 12 percent, with approximately a fourth of the residents living below the poverty line.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

New Mexico

52 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.

Marie Montero,
3900 Paseo de Sol, Suite 322A
Sante Fe, NM 87505
Telephone: 505-988-5030
Fax: 505-988-4117
Email: monterosm@aol.com
Web site: www.wesst.org

Status: SUB

First Year Funding:
Projected Final Funding Year: FY
SBA Region: 6

53 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.

Debbie Baca, Project Manager
414 Silver Street, SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Telephone: 505-241-4753
Fax: 505-241-4766
Email: dbacawesst@swcp.com
Web site: www.wesst.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006
SBA Region: 6

See Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST), Albuquerque, NM.

54 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.

Bonnie Buckingham, Regional Manager
4601 East Main Street, Suite 580
Farmington, NM 87402
Telephone: 505-325-0678
Fax: 505-325-0695
Email: 4business@zianet.com
Web site: www.wesst.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2005
SBA Region: 6

The Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team was incorporated in 1988 to assist low-income and minority women throughout New Mexico. WESST Corp. clients typically need long-term training and technical assistance. The centers serve both startup and expanding businesses, and provide training and counseling in both English and Spanish. Counseling and mentoring are offered through professional volunteers including attorneys, accountants, insurance agents and benefits counselors. Because of the rural nature of the areas it serves, WESST Corp. trainers often travel to clients' businesses. WESST Corp. has the only SBA Microloan Program in New Mexico and is an SBA Loan Prequalification Program intermediary.

Under its newest grant, WESST Corp. serves Roswell and the surrounding seven-county area. With the closing of the Levi Strauss plant in the fall of 1997, the area's unemployment rate jumped to one of the highest in southeast New Mexico -- more than 12 percent, with approximately a fourth of the residents living below the poverty line.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

New York

55 Women's Venture Fund, Inc.

Bette Yee, Project Director
240 West 35 Street, Suite 201

Manhattan, NY 10001

Telephone: 212-563-0499

Fax: 212-868-9116

Email: finance@wvf-ny.org

Web site: www.womensventurefund.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1997

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 2

The Women's Venture Fund is based on a radically simple idea: empowering women, particularly low-income women, to create new businesses by making microloans available to them, and then ensuring their success through mentoring and training. The Fund makes microloans to entrepreneurial women who cannot get funding through conventional sources. These women have great ideas but desperately need small loans, business planning, and the support it takes to develop a business into reality. By addressing their credit and training needs, the Fund enhances the ability of women to grow their

56 Women's Business Center of New York State

Donna L. Rebisz, President/CEO

200 Genesee Street-Radisson

Utica, NY 13502

Telephone: 315-733-9848

Fax: 315-733-0247

Email: NYWBC@aol.com

Web site: www.empowereveryone.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 2

Upstate New York, the target area of the WBC, has both rural and urban areas that are economically distressed. In the city of Utica, where the WBC will be located, 82.5% of households are described as below the poverty level.

Among the programs they will provide are: home-based businesses, disadvantaged youth entrepreneurship for success, choosing your business niche, all aspects of business basics, importing/exporting, franchise, total quality management, doing business on the Internet.

57 The Women's Business Resource Center (Hunts Point)

Josephine Infante, President/CEO

647 Bryant Ave.

Bronx, NY 10474

Telephone: 718-842-8888

Fax: 718-842-6592

Email: JsInfante@aol.com

Web site: www.wbrc.huntspointedc.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 2

All clients will fill out an intake form so they can be assisted with the exact needs of the clients. The Entrepreneurial Assistance Program provides 50 hours of training through a 10-week course. Monthly entrepreneurs clubs will provide

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

New York

58 Queens Women's Business Center

Nisha Chopra, Director (Acting)
120-55 Queens Boulevard, Suite 309

Queens, NY 11424

Telephone: 718-263-0546

Fax: 718-263-0594

Email: nc@queensny.org

Web site: www.queensny.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 2

The WBC will pay particular attention to immigrant women in the neighborhoods with the highest concentration of immigrants in Queens: Flushing, Jackson Heights, Corona, Elmhurst and Rego Park-Forest Hills. In 1999, there were 89,300 residents of Queens receiving public assistance. They are developing the St. Albans Market Place, a neighborhood development project designed to offer economic opportunities for micro-enterprise businesses by providing flexible selling spaces. They will offer a youth entrepreneur program in collaboration with existing Queens youth programs. A youth entrepreneur curriculum has been developed for minority youth who have very limited opportunities to learn about entrepreneur concepts and models. The program will be offered with the Queens Public Library.

59 The Local Development Corporation of East New York

Sherrye Roberts, Director

80 Jamaica Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11207

Telephone: 718-385-6700x101

Fax: 718-385-7505

Email:

Web site: www.ldceny.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 2

The Local Development Corporation of East New York provides training, counseling, mentoring, and assistance in the areas of finance, management, marketing, government procurement, loan and loan packaging. The center provides business workshop series, including "Business Ideas," "What's Hot, What's Not" and "Exploring Franchise Opportunities." The center also hosts a Minority Women Business Roundtable.

North Carolina

60 The Women's Center of Fayetteville

Judi Superak, Acting Director WBC

230 Hay Street

Fayetteville, NC 28301

Telephone: 910-323-3377

Fax: 910-323-8828

Email: jsuperak@wcof.org; sray@wcof.org

Web site: www.wcof.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1998

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 4

The mission of the North Carolina Center for Women Business Owners is to assist women achieve lifetime economic stability for themselves and their families through business ownership. It offers a variety of empowerment programs for women, high local credibility with a 10-year history serving women and families, and strong local partnerships. The Center recently transitioned its successful entrepreneurial enterprise into a cooperative retail outlet for home-based women's businesses. The center continues to provide ongoing training on product development, pricing and marketing. Nearly a third of their clients are socially and economically disadvantaged from both inner-city and rural areas; other clients are military spouses from two nearby bases.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

North Carolina

61 North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development

Verona P. Edmond, Director
114 West Parrish Street, 4th Floor; P.O. Box 1331
Durham, NC 27701
Telephone: 919-956-8889
Fax: 919-688-4358
Email: vedmond@ncimed.com
Web site: www.ncimed.org/wbc.html

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2000
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004
SBA Region: 4

The North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development targets both urban and rural women seeking business assistance within the state of North Carolina. The center provides orientation, short- and long-term training, mentoring and networking. Classes range from business start ups to financing and ongoing management assistance.

North Dakota

62 The Center for Technology and Business

Tara Holt, Project Director
1022 East Divide Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501
Telephone: 701-223-0707
Fax: 701-250-4304
Email: holt@techwomen.org; fugere@techwomen.org
Web site: www.techwomen.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 1999
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003
SBA Region: 8

Through partnership with SBA resources, colleges and universities, the North Dakota Department of Economic Development and Finance, and the Bank of North Dakota, the Women and Technology Program provides business-development and technical assistance to women throughout North Dakota. The center has developed a curriculum to teach rural and reservation-based women how to use a computer using Microsoft programs -- Excel, Access, Word, Internet, and PowerPoint -- in just 12 hours. These programs are run through the business information center, tribal business information centers, and economic-development offices throughout the state. The program works with welfare-to-work clients, Native American women, and women with disabilities.

Ohio

63 OWBRN Columbus WBE

Monica Steward,
35 East Gay Street, Suite 501
Columbus, OH 43215
Telephone: 614-228-4150
Fax:
Email: owbdc1@ameritech.net
Web site:

Status: **SUB**

First Year Funding:
Projected Final Funding Year: FY
SBA Region: 5

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Ohio

64 OWBRN Athens Field Office

Debra McBride,
20 East Circle Drive, Suite 190

Athens, OH 45701

Telephone: 740-797-7374

Fax:

Email: mcbride@ohiohills.com

Web site:

Status: SUB

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 5

65 Ohio Women's Business Development Council, Inc.

Linda Steward, Program Director
88 E. Broad Street, Suite 1770

Columbus, OH 43215

Telephone: 614-224-5688

Fax: 614-228-4160

Email: lsteward@netwalk.com

Web site: www.wings-women.com/wbdc

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1993

Projected Final Funding Year: FY N/A

SBA Region: 5

The OWBDC provides private-sector certification for women business owners, as well as training in e-commerce and procurement issues.

66 OWBRN Columbus Field Office, Comba

Kim Knights,
1000 East Main Street

Columbus, OH 43205

Telephone: 614-252-8005

Fax:

Email: kimknights@comba.com

Web site:

Status: SUB

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 5

67 OWBRN Cleveland Office

Linda Steward,
815 Superior Avenue

Cleveland, OH

Telephone: 1-866-WBE-CERT

Fax:

Email: By Appointment Only

Web site:

Status: SUB

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 5

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Ohio

68 OWBRN Cincinnati Office

Tracey Hayes,
1634 Central Parkway
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Telephone: 513-362-2700
Fax:
Email: asharp@cbincubator.org
Web site:

Status: SUB

First Year Funding:
Projected Final Funding Year: FY
SBA Region: 5

69 OWBRN Toledo Office

Linda Fayerweather,
P.O. Box 514
Maumee, OH 43537
Telephone: 419-9-897-0528
Fax:
Email: lindafay@lindafay.com
Web site:

Status: SUB

First Year Funding:
Projected Final Funding Year: FY
SBA Region: 5

Oklahoma

70 Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity (OIO) Women's Business Center

Betty Olivas, Program Director
3001 South Berry Road, Suite B
Norman, OK 73072
Telephone: 405-329-3737
Fax: 405-329-8488
Email: bolivas@oiooio.com
Web site: www.oiooio.com

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006
SBA Region: 6

The WBC will provide mentoring support groups and long and short-term counseling and technical assistance in all required subject areas for start-ups and business expansions. The WBC will provide group and individual Internet training. The WBC will provide content to the Online WBC and will provide online training and counseling, and message board management. Specifically, the WBC will contribute content in the area of special technical assistance and loan resources that are available to Native American women. Also, the WBC's website will be linked to the Online WBC. The WBC is an SBA loan prequalification intermediary and is working toward establishing a microloan fund.

71 Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. (REO) Women's Business Center

Barbara Rackley, Program Director
P.O. Box 1335
Durant, OK 74702
Telephone: 580-924-5094
Fax: 580-920-2745
Email: barbara@ruralenterprise.com
Web site:

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001
Projected Final Funding Year: FY
SBA Region: 6

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Oklahoma

72 Institution Programs, Inc.

Tammy Allard, Program Director
2709 West I-44 Service Road

Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Telephone: 405-601-1932

Fax: 405-601-1935

Email: tammy@helpyourbiz.org

Web site:

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 6

The WBC will conduct long and short term training utilizing various training modules including the FastTrac High-Tech Commercialization and Information Technology curriculums. They will also conduct mentoring groups and workshops and Internet training. The WBC will conduct a pre-qualification loan center that gives guidance in loan packaging and lender referrals. The center will conduct a business incubator and executive suite concept that will include sponsor on-site internships for comprehensive training. The WBC will offer services to women who are TANF recipients, women who are survivors of domestic violence, women with disabilities and women on welfare.

Oregon

73 Southern Oregon Women's Access to Credit (SOWAC)

Helen Wallace, Director

33 North Central, Suite 209

Medford, OR 97501

Telephone: 541-779-3992

Fax: 541-779-5195

Email: hwallace@sowac.org

Web site: www.sowac.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 10

Founded in 1990, Southern Oregon Women's Access to Credit provides business training, mentoring and financing services for women and men who face barriers. In 1996 and 1997, SOWAC piloted its services to low-income Hispanic entrepreneurs and very rural entrepreneurs. In 1998 SOWAC began serving TANF clients. In 1999 SOWAC began piloting a marketing-roundtable program for its graduates who are interested in growing their businesses. Training graduates may apply to SOWAC's Mentor Program to receive assistance from an experienced volunteer over a 6-month period and/or for a SOWAC business loan of up to \$25,000.

Pennsylvania

74 Women's Business Development Center (WBDC)

Geri Swift, President

1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1116

Philadelphia, PA 19107

Telephone: 215-790-9232; 215-790-5059

Fax: 215-790-9231

Email: gswift@womensbdc.org; wbdc@erols.com

Web site: www.wbenc.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 3

The Women's Business Development Center fosters business development and business retention. The center enables women to launch new businesses and to run their existing businesses more successfully. WBDC offers startup, emerging and established entrepreneurs a unique continuum of supportive services, including "Premier FastTrac," a comprehensive 11-week program culminating in a viable business plan for each entrepreneur; mentoring through the Women's Network for Entrepreneurial Training; Internet training and counseling; individualized business consulting in management, marketing, and financial matters; loan packaging; and procurement and certification assistance. By offering a full range of services and using the expertise of successful women business owners to deliver its programs, the WBDC has become a focal point for women's economic empowerment opportunities in the Greater Philadelphia region.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Puerto Rico

75 Women's Business Institute (WBI)

Teresa Sotero, Director

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San Juan, PR 00914-0383

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Fax: 787-726-7077

Email: tcsotero@yahoo.com

Web site: www.wbipr.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1997

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 2

The Women's Business Institute at the University of the Sacred Heart's Center for Women's Entrepreneurial Development offers technical assistance to women interested in establishing businesses. It also provides women business owners a place to launch and share ideas, objectives and experiences. The WBI contributes to the social and economic development of women through training on empowerment and business ownership as a viable way to achieve economic independence.

Rhode Island

76 Center for Women & Enterprise, Inc. (CWE)

Carol Malysz, Director

55 Claverick Street, Suite 102

Providence, RI 02903

Telephone: 401-277-0800 / 401-558-4539

Fax: 401-277-1122

Email: cmalysz@cweprovidence.org

Web site: www.cweboston.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 1

The Center for Women & Enterprise Rhode Island is a new venture of CWE Boston, 70 percent of whose clients are women of low and very low incomes, and 35 percent of whom are women of color; the new center will serve a similar population. CWE RI helps women access financing through banks and SBA loan-guaranty programs. Entrepreneurial courses include "FastTrac," "GROW" (Getting Right On With It Groups), "TEAM" (The Executive Advisory Meeting), workshops, seminars, networking groups, plus one-to-one counseling. CWE RI is a national clearinghouse for women and financing, providing technical assistance on SBA loan programs and directing women business owners to local SBA resource partners.

CWE RI offers "Turbo Day" once a year, a day-long program of high-impact workshops, each geared to a specific level of business experience. Workshops include "Shoestring Marketing," "Power Negotiating," "Super Sales Strategies," "Show Me the Money," and "Personnel: Everything You Wanted to Know But Were Afraid to Ask."

South Carolina

77 South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership/WBC

Haidee Stith, Project Director

817 Calhoun Street

Columbia, SC 29201

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Fax:

Email: hstith@scmep.org

Web site:

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding:

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 4

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

South Dakota

78 Center for Women Business Institute

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1101 W. 22nd Street

Sioux Falls, SD 57105

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Fax: 605-331-6615

Email: megan.pederson@usioxford.edu

Web site: www.usioxford.edu

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 8

Women in rural communities where the agriculture-dependent local economies are depressed, women who are Native American (many of whom live on reservations with high unemployment and high poverty levels), women with farm responsibilities who need to base their business from home, and other home-based businesses. The WBC will provide career and business exploration and development through the University's testing and counseling services. The WBC will develop networking events, a newsletter, and mentor program. The WBC will provide group-training opportunities. The WBC will provide training as follows: using NxLevel "Startup" and Entrepreneur" courses, conducting workshops and

Tennessee

79 The National Association for Women Business Owners

Janice Thomas, Executive Director

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Nashville, TN 37203

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Fax: 615-256-2706

Email: tn3wrc@bellsouth.net

Web site:

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1997

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 4

Nashville NAWBO was the first chapter chartered in Tennessee, and it helped establish chapters in Chattanooga, Memphis and the Tri-Cities area, thus creating a statewide partnership of women business owners. In concert with its educational foundation, the Nashville Foundation for Women Business Owners, Nashville NAWBO established the first SBA-funded women's business center in Tennessee. Located in Nashville, the Women's Resource Center offers on-site business-counseling services, training programs and technical assistance to women business owners in Middle Tennessee, which includes 21 counties. Through the consortium of sister NAWBO chapters, and a corporate partnership with BellSouth and the Tennessee Economic Development Center, the Women's Resource Center provides training programs statewide through satellite, two-way interactive videoconferences and the Internet.

80 Southeast Women's Business Center

Sandi Brock, Program Director

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Chattanooga, TN 37405

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Fax: 423-757-5491

Email: sbrock@sedev.org

Web site:

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 4

The WBC will be physically located in the inner-city area of Chattanooga. Outreach will be provided throughout the rural communities of Appalachia.

What they will do: The WBC will offer traditional business development assistance to women business owners and potential entrepreneurs. Their focus in rural areas will be home-based businesses. The circuit-rider approach to provide access to services throughout Appalachia will allow women who have never had access to such assistance to become economically self sufficient through self employment.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Texas

81 Women's Empowerment Business Center

Alicia Moreno, Project Coordinator

UT-Pan American Annex, 2412 South Closner Boulevard

Edinburg, TX 78539

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Fax: 956-316-2612

Email: morenoa@panam.edu

Web site: www.coserve.org/webc/

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1998

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 6

The WEBC serves a largely poor and Hispanic immigrant population in four counties that have unemployment rates of 20 percent and where a third of the adult population does not have a high school education. Services are available in both English and Spanish. The WEBC is located at the SBA's one-stop capital shop in Edinburg, and works closely with other agencies and service organizations. Clients located in the Enterprise Zone have access to revolving loan funds. WEBC services are integrated with various banks, municipalities, an enterprise center and chambers of commerce.

82 Texas Center for Women's Business Enterprise (CWBE)

Dianne Olson, Executive Director

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Austin, TX 78721

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Email: dianne@txcwbe

Web site: www.txcwbe.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 6

The Texas Center for Women's Business Enterprise is a public/private initiative dedicated to the entrepreneurial success of women in Texas, one of the top-ranking states for women's business ownership. Located in the capital city, TxCWBE Austin has served Texas women for over six years. It received a new grant in 1999 to expand to the underserved Temple/Killeen area, now the 11th largest Texas metropolitan market, where the population is 55 percent Anglo, 21 percent African American and 13 percent Hispanic.

The Texas Center for Women's Business Enterprise prepares a new generation of entrepreneurial women for business success with an array of services and programs. These include "How to Write Your Business Plan," "Fast Track to Certification," "10-Part Computer Skills Training Course," "Welfare-to-Work Hiring for Business Owners," "Conflict Resolution for Small Business Owners," and "Electronic Commerce." TxCWBE also provides services to Gatesville Correctional Facility, the largest women's prison in Texas.

TxCWBE hosts a branch of the Women's Construction Network (TxCWBE conceived of and began hosting the network in 1993). They hold monthly meetings to address construction-specific educational topics and procurement opportunities. TxCWBE is replicating this program in the Killeen/Temple area and is broadening it to include women in agribusiness.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Texas

83 Women's Business Border Center

Terri Adams-Reed, Project Director
201 E. Main Street, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79903

Telephone: 915-566-4066

Fax: 915-566-9714

Email: treed@ephcc.org

Web site: www.ephcc.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 6

The Chamber's current staff is 100% Hispanic and 90% female; all are fluent in Spanish and reflect the 70% Hispanic population of El Paso. By locating the first WBC satellite office in La Mujer Obrera's El Puente CDC, the Chamber is specifically targeting the 35,000 Spanish-speaking displaced women workers and other socially and economically disadvantaged female residents within the Empowerment Zone and HUBZone designated areas.

In addition to basic bilingual business skills and management training, the WBC will provide mentoring and internships with Hispana-owned businesses as a means to broaden clients' business and economic experience. Some of their workshops include: Amazing Facts About Small Business, 10 Steps to Starting Up a New Business, How to Avoid the Most Common Small Business Blunders, The Top 6 Reasons Businesses Fail, Checklist for Starting a New Business, The 4 Basic Components of a Business Plan, Promoting Value to Increase Your Bottom Line, 8 Ways to Organize Your Business, Employees... Your Most Valuable Asset, Phone Etiquette Tips, and Do You Know What Questions You Can and Can't Ask in an Interview?

Online Support: The WBC will arrange for successful local bilingual Hispana entrepreneurs to provide online mentoring and counseling. The WBC will also contribute data and information regarding women entrepreneurs in urban Empowerment Zones, HUBZones, and international trade in the largest market along the U.S. Mexico border.

Innovative aspects: The WBC will utilize and augment the talents and expertise of home-based childcare providers and will actively seek out the roughly 4,000 women who operate businesses from their homes through outreach (marketing) in schools, churches, fitness clubs, laundromats, grocery stores and shopping centers. Because of the large military presence in El Paso (Ft. Bliss), the Chamber has already implemented the Women in the Battlefield program, that will assist many female veterans in their transition to civilian life, which will be expanded through this grant. Bilingual assistance will be provided for all phases of business start-up and expansion.

84 Fort Worth Women's Business Center

Catherine Simpson, Program Director
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Fort Worth, TX 76104

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Fax: 817-871-6031

Email: csimpson@fwbac.com

Web site: www.fwbac.com

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006

SBA Region: 6

See Women's Business Center, Fort Worth, TX.

Utah

85 Women's Business Center

Nancy Mitchell, Executive Director
175 East 400 South, Suite 600
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Telephone: 801-328-5075

Fax: 801-328-5098

Email: nmitchell@saltlakechamber.org

Web site: www.saltlakechamber.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 1997

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002

SBA Region: 8

The Women's Business Center at the Chamber supports the success of women business owners throughout Utah with counseling, training and loan-packaging assistance. With more than 30 committees and task forces, the Chamber provides unique networking opportunities for clients as well as a full-service export-assistance program. An onsite high-tech center offers access to the Internet and all types of business software. Women business owners can access help with marketing, management, finance and procurement. There is a modest fee for some services, but scholarships and specialized training are available for socially or economically disadvantaged women.

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Vermont

86 Vermont Women's Business Center (CVCAC)

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Montpelier, VT 050602

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Fax: 802-479-5353

Email: lingold@cvcac.org; cflint@cvcac.org;

Web site:

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2002

Projected Final Funding Year: FY

SBA Region: 1

Virgin Islands

87 St. Croix Foundation for Community Development, Inc. (SCFCD)

Virgin Islands Women's Business Center

Yvette DeLaubaque, Program Director
202 Chandler's Wharf, Gallows Bay

St. Croix, USVI 00802

Telephone: 340-773-4995

Fax: 340-773-8503

Email: staff@wbcvi.org; yvette@wbcvi.org

Web site: www.wbcvi.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 2

Nearly one in four Virgin Islanders does not speak English as a primary language. About one in three Virgin Islanders lives in poverty, and single women account for 50 percent of the heads of households. The St. Croix Foundation for Community Development helps these women change their lives through entrepreneurship. In its first year of funding, the SCFCD is running two repeated training programs for six months each. They cover how to write a business plan, loan strategies—accessing capital for startups and expansions—as well as basic accounting, record-keeping, small business management and marketing, and computer and Internet training. Group counseling sessions are held twice a month, with sessions relating to the ongoing course of study. Mentoring and networking groups are also available. Two-hour seminars cover topics such as “The 3Ds: Dedication, Discipline, Due Diligence,” “It’s All Attitude,” “Arts and Crafts for Profit,” “The Government Procurement Process,” and “Over the Money Hurdle, Moving from Local to Global.” Four full-day conferences are also held each year along with a Business Women's Exposition.

Virginia

88 Women's Business Center of Northern Virginia

Barbara Wrigley, Director
6521 Arlington Boulevard, Suite 204

Falls Church, VA 22042

Telephone: 703-534-6220

Fax: 703-534-6223

Email: bwrigley@wbcnova.org; info@wbcnova.org

Web site: www.wbcnova.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 3

The Women's Business Center of Northern Virginia is a program of the South Fairfax Regional Business Partnership, Inc., with the support of Fairfax County Office for Women and George Mason University-Mason Enterprise Center. The WBC provides counseling, training and outreach to women in business in Fairfax County and the Northern Virginia region. The center hosts regular networking and women's roundtable events along with training in start-up, management, financing

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Washington

89 Northwest Women's Business Center

Jamie Curtismith, Director
728 134th Street, SW, Suite 219
Everett, WA 98203
Telephone: 425-787-9856
Fax: 425-745-5563
Email: jamie.nwwbc@snoedc.org
Web site: www.seattleccd.com

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 2001
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2006
SBA Region: 10

90 Women's Business Center

Suzanne Tessaro, Director
P.O. Box 22283; 1437 South Jackson Street, Suite 302
Seattle, WA 98122
Telephone: 206-324-9458
Fax: 206-324-4322
Email: suzannet@seattleccd.com
Web site: www.seattleccd.com

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: 1998
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2002
SBA Region: 10

The Community Capital Development Program provides assistance to seasoned entrepreneurs (in business three to five years) and to start up business owners (in business three years or less). Startup business clients include many from the Seattle Housing Authority, and many recent immigrants and immigrant women on welfare. The center works closely with its many partners in the community, including banks, local economic-development agencies, small business development centers, and other local business support-service agencies. Community Capital Development has its own in-house loan fund as well as being an SBA lender and an intermediary for the SBA Loan Prequalification Program.

West Virginia

91 Women's Business Institute, Inc. (WBI)

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Keyser, WV 26726
Telephone: 301-786-4646
Fax: 304-788-1687
Email: keyserwbi@juno.com; checket@juno.com;
mis@accessa.net; crabbsie@aol.com
Web site: www.members.aol.com/bchecket

Status: **SUB**

First Year Funding: 1999
Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003
SBA Region: 3
SBA Region: 3

92 Women's Business Institute, Inc. (WBI)

Kathryn Johnston,
1000 Technology Drive, Allan B. Mollahan Technical Center
Fairmont, WV 26554
Telephone: 304-366-1400
Fax:
Email: checket@juno.com; crabbsie@aol.com
Web site: www.wbi-wv.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding:
Projected Final Funding Year: FY
SBA Region: 3

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Wisconsin

93 Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC)

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2300 South Park Street, Suite 4
Madison, WI 53713

Telephone: 608-257-5450

Fax: 608-257-5454

Email: jill.french@wwbic.com

Web site: www.wwbic.com

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2001

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2005

SBA Region: 5

94 Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC)

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Milwaukee, WI 53212

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julann.jatczak@wwbic.com

Web site: www.wwbic.com

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 2000

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2004

SBA Region: 5

SBA Region: 5

The Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation has served over 10,000 individuals and funded more than 120 business startups and over 150 business expansions since it began in 1989 as a women's demonstration site. More than 800 jobs have been created and retained by WWBIC's efforts. WWBIC is an economic-development corporation providing business education, training and technical assistance. Its unique programs include peer lending, "Coffee with a Conscience," a business laboratory, business incubation programs, and individual development account initiatives. WWBIC is also the state's largest microlender under SBA's Microloan Program. WWBIC has expanded its operations to an additional site in Madison and provides ongoing training in the Milwaukee, Madison, Janesville, Beloit, Fox Valley, Green Bay, Racine, and Kenosha areas.

95 Western Dairyland Women's Business Center (WDWBDC)

Renee Walz, Business Development Director
P.O. Box 125; 23122 Whitehall Road
Independence, WI 54747

Telephone: 715-985-2391x 211; 800-782-1063 ext. 211

Fax: 715-985-3239

Email: rwalz@westerndairyland.org

Web site: www.wisconsinwbc.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 5

SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Wisconsin

96 Western Dairyland Women's Business Center (WDWBDC)

Nadine Jentzsch, WBC Project Manager
202 Eau Claire St., Suite 105

Eau Claire, WI 54701

Telephone: 715-832-6472; 800-782-1063

Fax: 715-832-8311

Email: nadine@westerndairyland.org

Web site: www.wisconsinwbc.org

Status: SUB

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 5

The Western Dairyland Women's Business Center serves four counties in western Wisconsin. The city of Eau Claire, the largest population center in the service area, has the lowest per capita personal income of any metropolitan area in the state, while the predominantly rural nature of the service area hampers business and economic development. WDWBC projects that at least 75 percent of its clients have incomes at or below 150 percent of the poverty level. WDWBC provides startup assistance, access to a loan-guaranty fund, intensive follow-along services to regularly monitor progress, and continued access to a lending library of computers and related equipment. Owners of existing businesses receive customized technical assistance, including business-plan development, accessing financing from local lenders, SBA Loan Prequalification and Microloan programs, marketing assistance, Internet training, etc. Two types of businesses are especially targeted: child-care and home-based businesses. The center also shares information on Western Dairyland's sewing and textile manufacturing network, a model for flexible manufacturing that allows several micro-businesses to obtain contracts and produce products together that the individual businesses could not handle on their own.

Wyoming

97 Wyoming Women's Business Center

Andrea Lewis, Director

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Laramie, WY 82071

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Email: wwbc@uwyo.edu; lindywbc@uwyo.edu

Web site: www.wyomingwomen.org

Status: Currently Funded Center

First Year Funding: 1999

Projected Final Funding Year: FY 2003

SBA Region: 8

The Wyoming Women's Business Center helps empower Wyoming women through successful business ownership. The least-populated state in the U.S., Wyoming has fewer than 500,000 people living on over 90,000 square miles. The two largest towns, Casper and Cheyenne, have only about 50,000 people each. Wyoming is the home of Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks and is a state of great contrasts, including the largest disparity between men's and women's wages in the whole country. While the distances between towns contribute to Wyoming's rugged beauty, connections among people remain one of the greatest challenges. The Wyoming Women's Business Center is a partnership of the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming Small Business Development Center, the Wyoming Business Council, and the SBA. Services offered by the Wyoming Women's Business Center include business counseling and training, and access to resources for current and prospective business owners. By the fifth year, the center hopes to open another center near the Wind River Indian Reservation.